



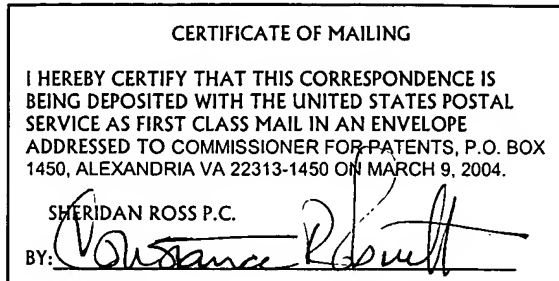
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/026,329
Applicant : Vance et al.
Filed : December 19, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1712
Examiner : Daniel Metzmaier

Confirmation No. 1712

Docket No. : 4851-12
Customer No. : 22442

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450



AMENDMENT

Sir,

This Response is filed in reply to the Office Action mailed 10 September 2003 (Paper No. 10). A request for a three month extension of time to extend the time for response from 10 December 2003 to 10 March 2003 is being submitted herewith, along with the requisite fee. Please debit any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: